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## GLOUCESTER MUSICAL FESTIVAL, continued from p. 126.

On Thursday morning, there were three attractive pieces in the sacred performance, viz., *Engedi* (the "Mount of Olives"), Rossini's *Stabat Mater*, and Spohr's *Last Judgment*. Mr. S. Reeves, being actually confined to his bed, was unable to appear, and the music allotted to him was sung by Mr. Montem Smith. Madame Novello surpassed herself in all the principal soprano music, and never was her magnificent voice heard to greater perfection. The other solo parts were sustained by Mrs. Hepworth, Miss Lascelles, Mr. M. Smith, and Mr. Thomas, who contributed to render this a most successful performance.

The third and last evening concert included a variety of miscellaneous pieces, and the audience were much gratified with the selection. Miss Summerhayes, a young pianist of great promise, was received with every manifestation of delight, and was encored in Wallace's fantasia on "Robin Adair." The singers were the same as on the previous occasion.

On Friday morning, the *Messiah* attracted one of the largest audiences ever assembled in Gloucester Cathedral, and the performance was probably the best during the week. All the singers were at their post, including Mr. S. Reeves, who had been able in a great measure to recover his powers. The choruses, sung by the united choirs of Gloucester, Worcester, and Hereford, were marked by their usual precision, and great pains had evidently been taken to render their part in the performance altogether perfect.

The following is an account of the numbers that have attended the performance during the week:—Tuesday morning (Cathedral), 1700; evening concert, 415; Wednesday morning, 1450; evening, 350; Thursday morning, 1546; evening, 642; Friday morning, 2800. The collections were as follow:—Tuesday, £201 1s. 6d.; Wednesday, £161 11s. 4d.; Thursday, £214 3s. 6d.; Friday, £456 18s. 11d.; total, £1033 15s. 3d.

## GLASGOW MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

We find from a Prospectus just issued, that the people of Scotland are bestirring themselves in the cause of Music, and that there is every prospect of a Musical Festival on a grand scale being held at Glasgow in the ensuing year. The Prospectus is headed by a very numerous list of patrons, including the highest of the nobility and gentry of the country. The name of Her Majesty is the first of the list, followed by the Prince Consort, the Duke of Cambridge, and about thirty noblemen, besides a great number of the most influential of the aristocracy. The trustees are Alexander Harvey, Esq., of Govenhaugh; James McClelland, Esq., of the Institute of Accountants and Actuaries in Glasgow; William Paul, Esq., of the Commercial Bank of Scotland, and the Treasurer and Secretary of the Choral Union.

It appears that, until within a comparatively recent period, the performance of a single oratorio in a suitable manner, in Scotland, generally resulted in pecuniary loss; and, as a natural consequence, works of that class have been produced less frequently than their pre-eminent merit demanded. But during the last few years, a gratifying improvement has been perceptible in the public taste,—an increased interest has been manifested in the highest class of Music,—and it is therefore believed that the time has now arrived when the design of a Musical Festival will obtain adequate support, and be regarded as an appropriate expression of the public appreciation of one of the most ennobling of the Fine Arts.

These considerations have induced the proposal to celebrate, in February, 1860, under the auspices of the Glasgow Choral Union, the First Musical Festival of the town,—the profits of which are to be applied in aid of the Glasgow Royal Infirmary and the Asylum for the Blind. The musical arrangements contemplated are on a scale suited to the character of the undertaking. The festival will embrace three complete oratorios and a grand miscellaneous

concert. The first of these will be the *Elijah* of Mendelssohn. The second concert will be miscellaneous. At the third, it is intended to produce a new oratorio by Horsley, entitled *Gideon*; and the *Messiah* will be performed on the last day of the four. The design is to engage a competent number of solo vocalists of acknowledged excellence. The orchestra will be composed of eminent London and provincial artistes, and the chorus will consist of the members of the Glasgow Choral Union, at present numbering about 250, but who will probably be largely increased before the end of the current year.

The expenses of such a festival are manifestly of great importance, and the projectors have determined upon insuring a guarantee against too heavy a responsibility by obtaining subscriptions beforehand. In order to raise the requisite amount, they have arranged that a subscription of two guineas shall entitle the subscriber to one ticket for the reserved seats at each of the four concerts, and a subscription of £2 10s. will secure two tickets for either the two first or two last concerts. A corresponding number of additional tickets will be supplied to those who are inclined to further the undertaking by increasing their subscriptions. The Glasgow Choral Union has now been in existence for sixteen years; during that period they have produced some of the best compositions of the great masters, and it is gratifying to find that the efforts of the society have successfully promoted the cultivation of Music in Glasgow. This is sufficient to prove that the Choral Union are entitled to the confidence of the public in the important undertaking of inaugurating a Grand Musical Festival.

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Notices of concerts and other information supplied by our friends in the country, must be forwarded as early as possible after the occurrence, otherwise they cannot be inserted. Our correspondents must specifically denote the date of each concert, for without such date no notice can be taken of the performance. All communications must be authenticated by the proper name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication.

## Brief Chronicle of the last Month.

ABINGDON.—On the 8th of September, the members of the Musical Association held their first meeting for this season at the Council Chamber. Mozart's Twelfth Mass was the programme selected for the opening night, which was given with considerable taste and spirit for a society consisting entirely of amateurs. At the next meeting Beethoven's Mass in C will be performed. During the past season (1858—9) this Society has held twenty-eight meetings for the practice of classical music.

AMERSHAM (Bucks).—A morning and evening concert was given on the 31st of August, by Mr. W. H. Birch, organist of St. Mary's. The vocalists engaged were Miss Poole, Miss Lizzy Stuart, Mrs. H. Barnby, and Messrs. Marriott, Whiffin, and Barnby. Instrumentalists, violin, Mr. John Day; viola and concertina, Mr. W. H. Birch; violoncello, Mr. Horatio Chipp; and pianoforte, Mr. John Birch. The whole of the performances were of a most satisfactory character, the audience testifying by their applause the pleasure they felt at the efforts of their entertainers, and showing that they appreciated the spirited enterprise of their worthy organist.

**BATH.**—A new choral society has lately been formed in this city, for the practice of glees, madrigals, choruses, &c. Occasional public performances of the society will take place during the season, the proceeds of which will be devoted to the support of local charities. Mr. J. H. Macfarlane is to be the conductor.

**BRIDLINGTON.**—On the 6th of September, Mr. W. Turner, organist of the Parish Church, gave his annual concert at the Victoria Rooms. Miss Wilson, of Hull, and Messrs. Plowman, Hird, Hudson, and Holmes, from the Wilberforce Institution for the Blind, York, were the vocalists.

**BRISTOL.**—A concert of vocal and instrumental music, supported chiefly by amateurs, assisted by several professional performers of eminence, was given on the 8th ult., at the School-rooms of St. Mary's. The first part consisted of Rossini's *Stabat Mater*, in which Mdle. de Guerrabella, Miss Sullivan, Mr. Fripp, and Mr. Merrick, sang the solos. The second part of the concert was composed of miscellaneous music, which was well performed throughout. Mr. S. D. Saunders was the conductor. The band acquitted themselves admirably.

**BURSCOUGH BRIDGE.**—The new organ which has just been erected by Mr. Postill, of York, in St. John's Church, was opened on the 18th instant, when appropriate sermons were preached by the Rev. J. W. Parker, incumbent of St. Alban's, Rochdale. The new instrument gave universal satisfaction, and its powers were well exhibited by Mr. Watts, organist of the Parish Church of Ormskirk, who presided. An efficient choir was provided for the occasion.

**CROSBY HALL.**—Mr. Stevens gave his sixth evening concert here on the 23rd instant. The performance consisted of Haydn's Third Mass, with full orchestral accompaniments, and a selection of secular music.

**CRYSTAL PALACE.**—Great exertions have been made by the managers of the Crystal Palace to keep up the interest in the musical attractions during the past month. On the 10th ult., a concert was given, supported by the talents of Mdles. Piccolomini and Titiens, and Madame Borchardt, Sig. Giuglini, and other artists of the Italian Opera, Drury Lane.—On the 14th, the last of the juvenile displays of choral singing was held in the great Handel Orchestra, by 6000 children and other vocalists instructed on the Tonic Sol-fa system. The programme comprised several chorales, Mendelssohn's "Lift thine eyes," Handel's "Hail, Judea," "Rule, Britannia," and "Sound the loud timbrel," with many other popular pieces and part-songs. Miss Stirling, the accomplished lady-organist, also performed several solos. The manner in which the youthful performers executed their parts elicited the warmest approbation, and the attendance upon the occasion was unusually large.—On the 21st, the last appearance of Madame Novello took place previous to her departure for Italy. Madame Novello sang the beautiful aria, "Hear ye, Israel," by Mendelssohn, "Prendi me," by Benedict, and two Scotch songs, all of which were rapturously applauded.—In addition to the musical exhibitions of the month, there has been the attraction of flower-shows and repeated displays of the water-works, which have drawn together large assemblies of persons. We are glad to see that the directors have determined upon enclosing and improving the small concert-room, so as to render it more generally available for winter concerts, lectures, &c. This plan, it is hoped, will also improve the acoustic effects of the place. It is intended to adopt every available means of affording amusements during the winter months, and the public will no doubt appreciate the peculiar advantages of the Palace as a locality especially adapted to recreation and enjoyment during the cold weather.

**FOLKESTONE.**—The fine old Parish Church of Folkestone, was re-opened on Friday, September the 9th, after undergoing extensive alterations. The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archdeacon, and a great number of the clergy,

were present. The musical arrangements were conducted by the organist, Mr. W. B. Tolpitt. The church choir, with the assistance of Mr. Eastes, Mr. Plant, and Mr. Gough, lay vicars of Canterbury Cathedral, performed Jackson and King's Services, and anthems by Kent, Croft, &c., with great efficiency. The attendance at each service was very numerous.

**GOOLE.**—On Friday, September 9th, at the Quarterly Meeting of the teachers and friends in connection with North and South Street Wesleyan Sabbath Schools, Mr. Samuel Scarborough was presented with a handsome edition of Handel's *Messiah*, and a purse of money, as a token of respect from the parents and teachers of the children, for his valuable services in instructing the children in anthems and choruses.

**MANCHESTER.**—A concert was given on the 24th of August, at Henshaw's Blind Asylum, which was numerously attended. The music was well performed under the direction of Mr. H. Hiles, the newly-appointed organist and teacher to the asylum.

**NEWINGTON.**—Mr. Samuel Hoole has been appointed organist of the new church of St. John.

**OLDBAM.**—We have to record the sudden and unexpected death of Mr. Joseph Winterbottom, of Vineyard, who was for many years well known and appreciated by the various musical associations in the district. Mr. Winterbottom was highly esteemed by a large circle of professional and private friends. He died on the 10th ult., in the forty-fifth year of his age, and his funeral was attended by a large concourse of persons anxious to show their respect for his character. A musical service was performed on the occasion, in which the members of the Borough Choral and Musical Societies took part.

**PORTMADOC.**—An Harmonic Society has been established in this town by some of the principal musical residents, which promises to be highly successful. N. Matthew, Esq., is the president; Mr. W. Owen is appointed director; Mr. J. Thomas, secretary; and Mr. R. J. Maddern, treasurer.

**ST. ASAPH.**—On the 31st of August, the united choirs of St. Asaph, Chester, and Bangor, performed a selection of sacred music in the Cathedral Church, and distinguished themselves in a highly-creditable manner. Several of the solos sung by Messrs. Wait and Cuzner, of Chester, deserved praise. The music was accompanied by Mr. Atkins, the organist, in a masterly style.

**STROUD (Glostershire).**—A selection from Mr. S. Percival's cantata, the *Lyre*, consisting of overture, chorus, duet, quartett, and chorus, was performed on Tuesday evening, September the 20th, in the Subscription Rooms, to an audience of nearly 700 persons.

**WANSTED.**—Mrs. Thomas Percy, organist to the Parish Church, Edmonton, has been appointed teacher of music to the Infant Orphan Asylum. There were 10 applicants.

**WARGRAVE.**—Mr. Robert Fieldwick has been appointed organist to the Church at Wargrave, near Henley-on-Thames.

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